

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 201020Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 940

S E C R E T BANGKOK 2940

EXDIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION BANGKOK FROM CHIANG MAI ON 20 FEB.

REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO:

QUOTE

S E C R E T CHIANG MAI 044

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV

SUBJECT: HIS MAJESTY'S HEALTH

1. DURING CALL ON CHIANG MAI GOVERNOR FEB. 19 TO INFORM HIM OF HIS SELECTION AS LEADER GRANTEE HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAD ACCOMPANIED PM-DESIGNATE SENI PRAMOT FEB. 18 WHEN LATTER CALLED ON HIS MAJESTY. HOWEVER, GOVERNOR REMAINED OUTSIDE ROOM DURING SENI AUDIENCE WHICH GOVERNOR DESCRIBED AS PRIVATE TETE-A-TETE.

2. IN OUTER ROOM GOV. DISCUSSED KING'S CONDITION WITH RETINUE OF PHYSICIANS. LATTER DESCRIBED HIS MAJESTY AS CONSIDERABLY WEAKENED BY ILLNESS AND NOW REQUIRING THREE MORE WEEKS TO RECUPERATE. HE HAS LOST WEIGHT AND HAS LEFT HIS BEDROOM ONLY TWICE (APPARENTLY YESTERDAY'S MEETING WITH SENI AND EARLIER MEETING WITH PRASIT) IN PAST SEVERAL WEEKS. KING HAD NOT EATEN BUT WAS FED INTRAVENOUSLY. GOV. HAD SEEN NUMEROUS EMPTY GLUCOSE SOLUTION BOTTLES ON A PREVIOUS VISIT.

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LUNG INFECTION CONTINUES BUT FEVER, WHICH AT ONE POINT REACHED

105.6 DEGREES, IS GONE.

3. DOCTORS APPARENTLY ATTEMPTED TO BRING HOSPITAL TO KING, RATHER THAN VICE VERSA, BY CARTING DIAGNOSTIC AND OTHER MEDICAL EQUIPMENT UP MOUNTAIN TO PALACE. THEY ALSO FLEW BLOOD (AN, PRESUMABLY, OTHER) SAMPLES TO BANGKOK FOR EXAMINATION.

4. COMMENT: NEW DEAN CMU MEDICAL FACILITY COMMENTED RECENTLY THAT THAI TEAM OF DOCTORS FOUND IT DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, TO TREAT HIS MAJESTY AS MORTAL, WITH SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR LATTER. ABOVE REPORT FROM GOV. TENDS TO CONFIRM DEAN'S COMMENT. AFTER ONE MONTH ILLNESS, KING IS APPARENTLY LONG WAY FROM FULL RECOVERY. WHETHER OR NOT HE REGAINS PREVIOUSLY ROBUST HEALTH AND IS ABLE TO MAINTAIN IT, GIVEN HANG-UPS OF HIS PHYSICIANS, BEARS WATCHING. HARBIN UNQUOTE
KINTNER

SECRET

NNN

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